



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

# Annual Progress Report to the FCPF for Cambodia

for the period 1 January –  
31 December 2014

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United Nations Development  
Programme

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The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, UNDP offers global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

The Participants Committee (PC) at its ninth meeting in June 2011 approved UNDP to serve as Delivery Partner under the Readiness Fund. The Transfer Agreement was signed between the World Bank, acting as the Trustee of the FCPF, and the UNDP on August 9, 2012.

To ensure a uniform set of safeguard standards, the Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners was also approved at the ninth FCPF PC meeting. The Common Approach is designed to provide the World Bank and the Multiple Delivery Partners with a common platform for risk management and quality assurance in the REDD+ Readiness Preparation process which is substantially equivalent to the World Bank's applicable policies and procedures on environmental and social safeguards, disclosure of information, and grievance and accountability mechanisms.

The report has been prepared by UNDP, based on materials prepared by the Cambodia FCPF Programme Management Unit. It solely reflects the perspectives of UNDP as a Delivery Partner.

## Summary

Country:	Cambodia
Project Title:	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility REDD+ Readiness Project
Implementing Partners:	Forestry Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Responsible Parties:	Forestry Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection, Ministry of Environment
Implementation Modality:	National Implementation Modality (NIM)

Project Timeline			
FCPF PC Resolution Approving R-PP	PC/8/2011/6	Transfer of Funds to Country Office	\$3,800,000 6 Feb 2014
Preparatory Grant	-	Inception Phase	Launch: July 2014 PMU Staffed: Nov 2014 First Board Meeting: 7 Aug 2014
Project Appraisal Committee	26 August 2013	Mid-term Review	
Project Signature	25 December 2013	No-Cost Extension:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Duration of Project	3 years	New End Date:	

## 2014 Results

### 1. Achievements

Cambodia's FCPF project began in March 2014, building on the REDD+ readiness progress delivered by the UN-REDD Programme and JICA. By December 2014, all the key institutions had been established and operationalized. These include the REDD+ Taskforce, REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat (RTS), the Consultation Group, the Gender Group and four Technical Teams. Policy dialogue and the capacity of these institutions were further strengthened through regular meetings, various training programmes, workshops and South-South exchanges (including a study tour to Vietnam).

A consultation and participation plan was developed to strengthen engagement with community networks and Indigenous Peoples. Access to information by stakeholders was further strengthened through the use and production of multi-media products such as Radio, TVs, Facebook and Twitter.

Progress was also made in developing a national REDD+ strategy and its implementation framework, with a first draft of the National Strategy finalized in December 2014. Technical analyses and subnational and national stakeholder consultations led to a proposal for a national approach to REDD+ safeguards, benefit sharing and fund management, and analytical studies were conducted to explore options for a grievance redress mechanism and costs and benefits in relation to different forest management modalities.

Technical support was provided to government agencies on forest governance and REDD+ activity implementation. The Forestry Administration produced a policy brief to manage forest areas under the jurisdiction of the FA and the General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection (GDANCP) on a landscape basis. The Fisheries Administration (FiA) implemented demonstration activities in flooded and mangrove forests. The Ministry of Environment developed a first draft of the National Protected Areas Strategic Management Plan.

Discussions with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) were initiated for the implementation of outcome 4 (national forest monitoring system (NFMS) and forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels (FREL/FRL).

The FCPF project uses the same results framework for national REDD+ readiness in Cambodia as the UN-REDD National Programme and REDD+ support by JICA. All REDD+ support is therefore closely coordinated among partners to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of delivery, as well as leadership by partners with comparative advantages for different work areas. Moreover, staff hired through the FCPF project and the UN-REDD National Programme sit in the same office in the Forest Administration, with JICA also in the same building, ensuring close coordination of day-to-day activities.

There were no changes to the technical design or approach related to project activities in 2014.

## 2. In Focus

Following agreement on the Warsaw Framework for REDD+, UNDP support is mapped below as per its contribution to country progress against elements of the UNFCCC's four Warsaw pillars.<sup>1</sup> The Cambodia REDD+ Taskforce has made significant progress on the four pre-requisites for results-based payments under the UNFCCC.

- **National REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan:** A draft of the National REDD+ Strategy has been produced and can be considered as a key achievement in 2014. The strategy is an over-arching policy document for REDD+ that begins to establish a national goal, objectives, and key policy measures for the effective implementation of REDD+ in Cambodia.
- **Forest reference emission level (FREL) / forest reference level (FRL):** Cambodia has partially completed a FREL/FRL, with support from FAO/UN-REDD and JICA. Cambodia reports an intention to submit their FREL/FRL to the convention by COP21. Support on this work area under FCPF will begin in 2015.
- **National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS):** Satisfactory progress through support by FAO under the UN-REDD National Programme and JICA. Activities on this work area under FCPF will begin in 2015.
- **Safeguard Information System (SIS):** The Safeguards Technical Team was formally established in January 2014. It comprises members from different government institutions. Key principles and criteria of the safeguards systems were defined, gap analyses of existing social and environmental PLRs were carried out, REDD+ social/environmental indicators for performance were proposed and the development of a data collection and monitoring methodology and institutional responsibilities have been initiated.

## 3. Risks, Issues and Responses

Concerns related to national ownership of the REDD+ readiness process were addressed in the last two quarters of the year through intensive consultations with government counterparts to plan, budget and ensure funds were allocated to strengthen the capacity of both national and subnational government agencies.

### 4. Progress in addressing key capacity issues of the Programme Management Unit (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this project.

The FCPF PMU was established in July 2014, with the arrival of the Chief Technical Advisor; other members, including a national programme manager and communications officer, arrived between August and November. The capacity levels of incoming staff were considerably bolstered by their co-location with staff of the UN-REDD National Programme and government officers in the office of the REDD+ Taskforce

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<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 71 of the UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16 requests countries to have the following elements in place for REDD+ implementation and to access results-based payments / results-based finance. The four elements requested by this paragraph are 1) A national strategy or action plan; 2) A forest reference emission level (FREL) of forest reference level (FRL); 3) A robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for the monitoring and reporting of the five REDD+ activities; and 4) a safeguard information system (SIS).

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Secretariat. All staff in this office meet regularly to review progress and address challenges to implementation of activities. Two meetings of the joint UN-REDD National Programme and FCPF Project Executive Board were organized (August 2014 and January 2015) to provide direction and endorsement of the Annual Workplan (AWP) of the programme and project.

**5. Progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the project. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach? Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?**

Cambodia is following the steps described in the UN-REDD's Country Approach to Safeguards (CAS), a process that can be the basis for the SESA.

A study of safeguards and a series of sub-national and national consultation workshops were conducted during 2014. A technical report on safeguards was produced that reviewed UNFCCC and other global safeguards such as those of the World Bank and UN-REDD's Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC) and undertook an assessment of how existing policies, laws and regulations (PLRs) address the Cancun safeguard principles. The results of the study were used as a basis to consult with relevant stakeholders at sub-national levels attended by representatives from government agencies, civil society organizations, local communities, and indigenous peoples. Stakeholder inputs from these consultations were incorporated into a revised technical report that presents research findings on approaches to safeguards in REDD+ pilot projects in Cambodia; draws lessons from comparative best and emerging practices from selected countries in Asia, and proposes an approach that will contribute to the process of developing a Safeguards Information System (SIS) for Cambodia.

A national consultation meeting was held in December 2014 to discuss a national approach to REDD+ safeguards. Presentations included a synthesis of gap analyses on PLRs, and preliminary options on indicators, criteria and principles for the development of a SIS in Cambodia.

**6. Progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, and disclosure of information and the Feedback Grievance and Redress Mechanism, related to this project**

A consultation and participation plan was developed in 2014. A plan to strengthen REDD+ awareness with Indigenous Peoples at the district level has been approved. A plan to strengthen capacity of Indigenous Peoples, community forestry, community fisheries, community protected areas and operationalize information flow and feedback mechanism were finalized.

The Taskforce approved the formation of a gender group in 2014 to ensure gender considerations are mainstreamed in the readiness process. The four-member group is represented by one representative each from FA, GDANCP, Fisheries Department and Ministry of Women Affairs.

A plan for REDD+ awareness raising to Indigenous Peoples at the district level has been approved. A plan to strengthen the capacity of Indigenous Peoples, community forestry, community fisheries, community protected areas and operationalize information flow and feedback mechanisms was endorsed. The Communications Strategy for Cambodia's REDD+ programme was endorsed. Four REDD+ Newsletters were produced and distributed. REDD+ extension materials were developed. A COP decisions booklet and REDD+ glossary was translated and circulated. Two TV talk show programmes were broadcast and radio

programmes were developed. A study tour abroad was organized for 10 Taskforce members. Ten awareness raising events were organized for a total of 333 participants from REDD+ groups. A national meeting on Preparing Cambodia to enter the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ was organized for 46 participants.

## 7. In Numbers

	Year 1 (2014)	Year 2 (indicate date)	Year 3 (indicate date)	Year 4 (indicate date)
Number of institutions represented in the Task force	7 Ministries			
Ratio of men/women in the Task Force	7/0			
Number of civil society organizations actively engaged in different aspects of the programme (Coordination Group)	9 (in the Coordination Group)			
Ratio of men/women in Coordination Group	16/2			
Number of people actively engaged in advising on the development of the national strategy	16 people (11 technical experts, 2 NGOS, 3 High Ranking officials)			
Number of people trained on REDD+ and climate change (men/women ratio)	304 (259/45)			
Number of people trained on the four Warsaw Framework elements (men/women ratio)	130			
Number of national consultation workshops held	4			
Number of information notes produced	5 working papers (joint with UN-REDD)			

## 8. Financial Delivery

The table below provides up-to-date cumulative financial progress of the R-PP implementation on planned, committed and disbursed funds, at the end of the reporting period and including all cumulative yearly disbursements.

<b>IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS</b>				
<b>OUTPUTS</b>	<b>Amount Transferred by UNDP</b>	<b>Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2014</b>		
		<b>Commitments</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Total Expenditures</b>
				<b>(D) = B + C</b>
OUTPUT 1 - Establishment national management of the REDD+ Readiness Process	715'000	0.00	150'885.54	150'885.54
OUTPUT 2 - Development of the National REDD+ Strategy	1'070'000	0.00	183'737.32	183'737.32
OUTPUT 3 - Improved capacity to manage REDD+ at subnational levels	1'305'000	0.00	0.00	0.00
OUTPUT 4 - Monitoring system designed for REDD+ with capacity for implementation	710'000	0.00	648.00	648.00
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>3'800'000</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>335'270.86</b>	<b>335'270.86</b>



## 9. Picture and caption



The 8th Meeting of the UN-REDD Programme and FCPF Project Executive Board (Photo by Ms. Heang Thy, UNDP)